

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 KABUL 04880 180424Z  
ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 AID-05  
EB-08 TRSE-00 /086 W  
-----121188 180425Z /12

R 180320Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8594  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
USMISSION BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 4880

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PEPR, GE, AF  
SUBJ: AFGHANISTAN AND GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AGREE TO  
EXCHANGE RESIDENT AMBASSADORS

1. THE AFGHAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED JUNE 14 THAT IT  
HAD AGREED WITH THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC (GDR) TO  
ESTABLISH RESIDENT DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS AT THE  
AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL. A GDR DELEGATION IS ALREADY RESIDENT  
AT A KABUL HOTEL, AND, ACCORDING TO ANOTHER ANNOUNCEMENT,  
FOREIGN MINISTER HAFIZULLAH AMIN MET JUNE 14 WITH THE  
GDR CHARGE, DR. BERND BIEDERMANN.

2. COMMENT: THIS ANNOUNCEMENT FURTHER UNDERSCORES THE  
NEW AFGHAN REGIME'S DETERMINATION TO STRENGTHEN ITS TIES  
WITH THE COMMUNIST COUNTRIES OF EAST EUROPE. IN VIEW  
OF THE GOVERNMENT'S OFT-STATED POLICY OF "JUDGING ITS  
FRIENDS BY THE AMOUNT OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL SUPPORT"  
THEY EXTEND TO AFGHANISTAN, WE ANTICIPATE THAT  
THE REGIME EXTRACTED PROMISES OF SUCH ASSISTANCE  
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FROM THE EAST GERMANS IN RETURN FOR THE AGREE-  
MENT TO EXCHANGE RESIDENT AMBASSADORS. CONCEIVABLY,  
BERLIN'S DECISION TO BECOME INVOLVED MORE  
DEEPLY HERE COULD HAVE BEEN AT SOVIET URGING AS  
A MEANS TO DIVERSIFY, ON THE SURFACE AT LEAST,  
THIS REGIME'S TIES WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES.

3. IN THIS REGARD, PRIOR TO THIS ANNOUNCEMENT,  
THE WEST GERMANS HERE WERE FAIRLY CERTAIN THAT  
THE GDR WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO EXTEND ASSISTANCE  
TO KABUL BECAUSE THE EAST GERMANS WERE FULLY  
COMMITTED TO AID PROJECTS IN AFRICA AND ELSE-  
WHERE.  
AMSTUTZ

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AMBASSADORS, OPENING OF OFFICES, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 18 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KABUL04880  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**SAS ID:** 2305979  
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**TAGS:** PEPR, GC, AF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014